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Consider the Role of Literary Journals: A Case Study of *Bamboo Ridge*'s Endeavour to Create a Narrative Space for the Future Generations in Hawaii

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Abstract

Bamboo Ridge: The Hawaii Writers' Quarterly is a literary journal launched in 1978 by Eric Chok and Darrell Lum in Hawaii, US. They started the journal in an effort to "foster the appreciation, understanding, and creation of literary, visual, audio-visual and performing arts by and about Hawaii's people" (Vol.1, 1978, p. iv). Till then, the US mainlanders regarded Hawaii's literature written by local people as non-existent. Against the assumption, Chuck and Lum started *Bamboo Ridge* to prove that local people in Hawaii can write.

Bamboo Ridge contributors have dealt with various issues in their works such as ethnic relations, gender issues, and environmental issues of Hawaii. The journal has offered a democratic narrative space where people can share their concerns freely. Another interesting point of *Bamboo Ridge* is that it used to publish works by young people such as elementary school students. The journal aims to nurture the future writers by giving them opportunities to engage in the journal.

Through introducing *Bamboo Ridge*'s various literary activities, this presentation will discuss how literary journals could contribute to reimagining the just, inclusive, and democratic future.

Keywords: Darrell Lum, Ethnic Relations, Democratic Narrative Space, Inclusive Cultural Future, Cultural Resistance.